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\* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

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January 8, 2002

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J1011 U.S. PTO  
10/08/02  
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL |    | PATENT NUMBER | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|----|---------------|------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------------|
|                  | AA |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AB |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AC |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AD |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AE |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AF |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AG |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AH |               |            |          |       |           |                            |
|                  | AI |               |            |          |       |           |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

|   |    | DOCUMENT NO. | PUBL. DATE | COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE      | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|---|----|--------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| ~ | AL | 9-266480     | 10/97      | Japan (with English Abstract) |       |           | no                    |
| ~ | AM | 11-215148    | 8/99       | Japan (with English Abstract) |       |           | no                    |
| ~ | AN | 2000-59374   | 2/00       | Japan (with English Abstract) |       |           | no                    |
|   | AO |              |            |                               |       |           |                       |
|   | AP |              |            |                               |       |           |                       |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)

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|  | AR |  |
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EXAMINER

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